

Kelly, United States Naval Reserve, for service as set forth in the following citation: For heroism and extraordinary achievement in aerial flight as Pilot of a Fighter Plane in Fighting Squadron Forty-Four, attached to the USS Langley, during operations against enemy Japanese forces in the vicinity of French Indo-China, on January 12, 1945. Participating in a daring strike against enemy shipping and installations, Lieutenant Junior Grade (then Ensign) Kelly fearlessly dove his plane through a heavy curtain of powerful anti-aircraft fire to score two direct hits with his rockets and contribute to the damaging of an enemy merchant vessel. Then, joining in an attack against a group of hostile seaplanes on the water, he executed a series of strafing runs and, striking furiously at his target, personally destroyed one of the enemy aircraft. By his expert airmanship, courage, and devotion to duty in the face of grave danger, Lieutenant Junior Grade Kelly upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service. For the President, [signed] James Forrestal, Secretary of the Navy.

CITATION FOR THE AIR MEDAL AWARDED TO
LEO KELLY

For distinguishing himself by meritorious acts while participating in an aerial flight in an attack on enemy shipping, Camranh Bay, French Indo China on 12 January, 1945. As pilot of a carrier-based fighter plane he dived against enemy anti-aircraft fire to hit an enemy merchant vessel with two rockets. This vessel was left beached. A few minutes later he again dived through anti-aircraft fire to destroy an enemy seaplane on the water. His courage and skill were at all times in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

CITATION FOR THE NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION
AWARD TO THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS
"LANGLEY"

The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in commending the United States Ship Langley for service as set forth in the following citation: For outstanding heroism in action against the enemy Japanese forces in the air, ashore and afloat in the Pacific War Area from January 29, 1944 to May 11, 1945. Operating continuously in the most forward areas, the USS Langley and her air groups struck crushing blows toward annihilating Japanese fighting power; they provided air cover for our amphibious forces; they fiercely countered the enemy's aerial attacks and destroyed his planes; and they inflicted terrific losses on the Japanese in Fleet and merchant marine units sunk or damaged. Daring and dependable in combat, the Langley with her gallant officers and men rendered loyal service in achieving the ultimate defeat of the Japanese Empire.

[This citation specifically mentions the following operations of the USS Langley: Marshall Islands, Jan. 29-Feb. 23, 1944; Palau, Hollandia and Truk Islands, March 29-April 30, 1944; Marianas and Bonins Islands, June 11-Aug. 8, 1944; Philippines, Palau, and Yap Islands, Sept. 6-24, 1944; Ryukyus, Formosa, and Philippines Islands, Oct. 10-Nov. 25, 1944; Luzon, Dec. 14-16, 1944; Philippines, Formosa and Ryukyus Islands, and China Sea, Jan. 3-22, 1945; Japan and Bonins Islands, Feb. 16-25, 1945; Japan and Ryukyus Islands, March 18-May 11, 1945.]

AWARDS TO LEO KELLY FOR HIS SERVICE IN
THE NAVY

Distinguished Flying Cross; Air Medal; Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon; Combat Action Ribbon; National Defense Service Medal with 1 Bronze Star; American Campaign Medal; Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with 3 Bronze Stars; World War II Vic-

tory Medal; Philippine Liberation Medal with 2 Bronze Stars; Philippine Presidential Unit Citation.

SERVICE OF LEO KELLY IN THE NAVY

Enlisted in Navy, July 9, 1942 as Seaman Second Class and became Aviation Cadet on Aug. 7, 1942; July 9-Dec. 14, 1942—Inactive Naval Reserve; Dec. 15, 1942-Jan. 15, 1944—Active Naval Reserve; January 16, 1944—Promoted to Ensign; June 1, 1945—Promoted to Lieutenant Junior Grade; July 1, 1955—Promoted to Lieutenant Commander; July 1, 1964—Retired.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO SANDRA ESTY

• Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I would like to recognize Ms. Sandra "Sandi" J. Esty, one of our most distinguished civil servants who will retire from Federal service on June 7, 2008, after contributing over 35 years of dedicated service to our country. She serves as the Chief, Air Operations Division, Office of Legislative Liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, the Pentagon, Washington, DC. She is responsible for managing, planning, developing and executing all facets of congressional travel matters for the Department of the Air Force. Ms. Esty also serves as the senior adviser and special assistant to the Director, Legislative Liaison and Air Force leadership with oversight of the Air Force Congressional Travel Program.

Ms. Esty left Syracuse, NY, in 1972 to begin her illustrious civil service career as a clerk-stenographer in the Office of the Air Force Reserve, the Pentagon. After demonstrating remarkable competence in working congressional constituent inquiries, she was selected to work Air Force constituent issues in the Secretary of the Air Force Legislative Liaison Inquiry Division, in 1975. She was promoted and served a short tour as the Administrative Assistant for the Secretary of the Air Force Space Systems, Budget Office before being asked to return to the Air Force Legislative Liaison Branch in 1981, this time as the Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Air Operations Division in Legislative Liaison. She was promoted in 1983 and served as Administrative Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Electronic Warfare. In 1985, she returned to Legislative Liaison as the Administrative Assistant to the Director of Legislative Liaison and then was assigned as an action officer in the White House Liaison Branch, Legislative Liaison, where she established herself as one of the top leaders of Legislative Liaison. In 1988, she was promoted and selected as the Deputy Chief, Air Operations Division, Legislative Liaison, and then, in 1997, she was promoted as a GS-15 and continued to serve in her current position as Chief, Air Operations Division.

During her tenure in the Air Operations Division, Ms. Esty was responsible for all the travel requirements of

Members and staff of Congress arranged by the Air Force. Ms. Esty's calm, logical, thorough method of dealing with unique situations involved some of this country's most important citizens, its legislators. Her true dedication to "doing it right," the absolute insistence on honesty and integrity, and the patience under extreme daily pressure are the standards that Ms. Esty leaves for all those who follow. She coordinated and executed over 10,000 congressional trips worldwide, to include the movement of approximately 70,000 Members and staff of Congress to 193 countries and 7 continents. I personally travelled on many of the trips with the Senate Armed Services delegations that Ms. Esty arranged, coordinated, and flight followed. Each was a complete success.

I join my colleagues in expressing our sincere appreciation to Ms. Esty who has provided many years of dedicated and professional service to the Congress and the U.S. Air Force and wish her well in all her future endeavors. •

TRIBUTE TO DR. CARL V. PATTON

• Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I wish today to honor in the RECORD of the Senate a great educator in the State of Georgia. On June 30, 2008, Dr. Carl V. Patton will retire as president of Georgia State University after 16 years of outstanding service.

Dr. Patton has led Georgia State University in its transition from a commuter school into a vibrant research university that is home to more than 28,000 students representing every county in the State, every State in the Nation, and 160 countries.

Georgia State has grown into one of this Nation's leading urban research universities, reflecting Dr. Patton's vision for a partnership between Atlanta and the university. Instead of designing walls to keep the city and its urban ways separate from the campus, he has insisted that the university fully integrate its research, teaching and service mission into the fabric of the urban environment of its downtown Atlanta home.

As the university has grown physically, it has grown in stature as well. The College of Law, which was in its infancy when Dr. Patton became president in 1992, is now ranked within the top 100 law schools. The Andrew Young School of Public Policy, founded in 1996, has grown from an idea to an internationally recognized program that works in over 30 countries around the globe as well as at home in the areas of health care, environment, air quality, taxation, aging, education, child care, and diversity.

The J. Mack Robinson College of Business continues to rank among the best in both graduate and undergraduate offerings, with two programs ranked in the top 10 by US News and World Report. The College of Health and Human Sciences leads the country